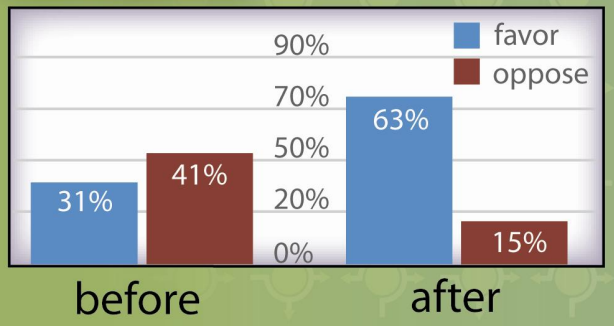
What are people saying about roundabouts?



Percent of people who favor and oppose roundabouts before and after construction.

Photo courtesy of Michigan DOT

Photo courtesy of Ingham County Road Commission

More Information

www.congestion.kytc.ky.gov/roundabouts.html

Photo courtesy of Rhode Island DOT

Photo courtesy of New York DOT

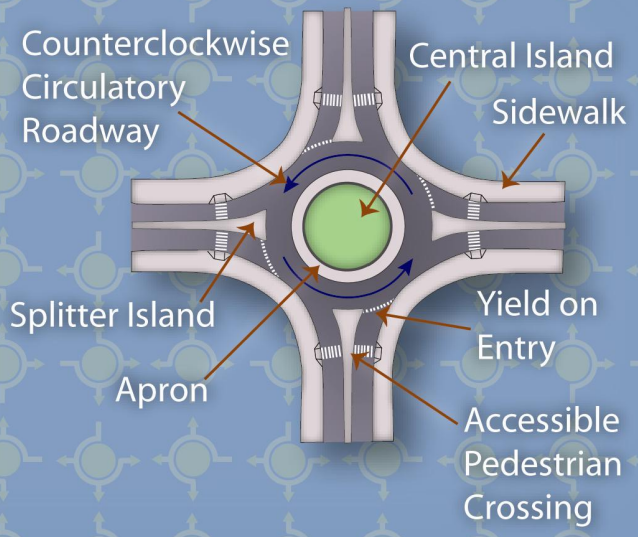
Photo courtesy of DLZ

Kentucky UNBRIDLED SPIRIT

KENTUCKY TRANSPORTATION CABINET

Roundabouts

Photo courtesy of NC DOT



Roundabout Safety

Photo courtesy of NC DOT

What is a modern roundabout?

A modern roundabout is a circular, unsignalized, low speed intersection designed to minimize traffic delays and maximize safety. It greatly improves on the design of older rotaries and traffic circles.

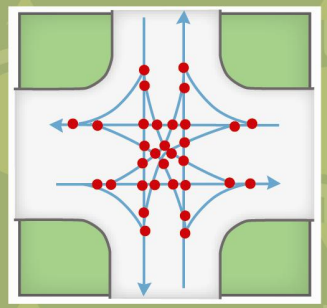
Traffic Flow

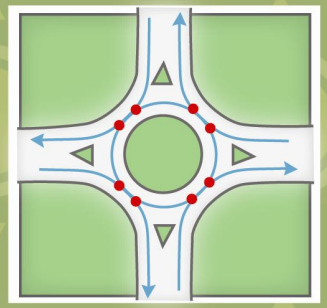
Roundabouts often move traffic more efficiently and carry higher volumes than a traffic signal or stop sign control. Low speeds of less than 30 mph allow drivers more time to make directional decisions. As a result, traffic flows smoother and with less delay to drivers, both during peak hours as well as other times. In fact, in some instances, delay can be reduced by up to 80% compared with other intersections. Roundabouts can be designed to carry all vehicle types, including school buses, emergency vehicles and large trucks.

Photo courtesy of NY DOT

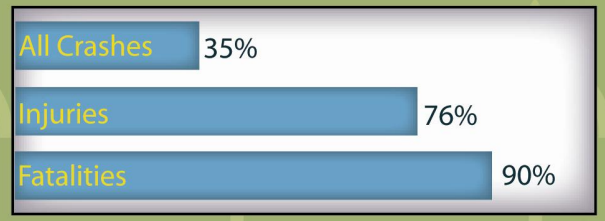
How do roundabouts reduce accidents?

Standard intersections have 32 conflict points where vehicles could potentially collide. Modern roundabouts reduce the number of conflict points to just eight. The collision angles are less perpendicular and approach speeds are naturally slowed which reduces the number and severity of crashes.

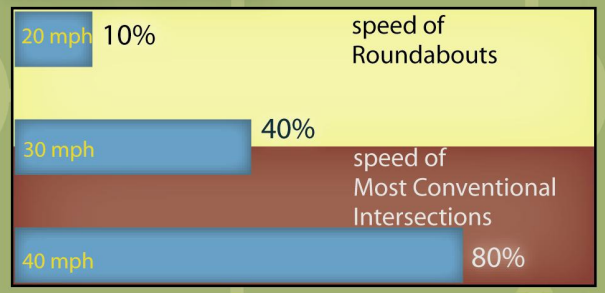




Roundabouts reduce:



Pedestrian chance of death by motor vehicle



Environmental & Cost Savings

A steady driving pace through a roundabout allows fewer stops and milder acceleration rates, resulting in less noise and air pollution. Roundabouts provide a friendly walking and biking environment and can be landscaped to improve the visual quality of the community.

Using a roundabout can save money on construction, land acquisition, and maintenance costs. Roundabouts do not require turning lanes, therefore bridges and underpasses can be much narrower, saving significantly on structure costs. Without the need for turning lanes, roundabouts can also save money on the purchase of land and minimize impacts to property owners.

Additionally, roundabouts require less electricity and equipment upkeep than a traffic signal.

Photo courtesy of Entran